

# United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-2003

April 27, 2012

The Honorable Andy Harris  
United States House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Representative Harris:

I urge you to work with the leadership in the House of Representatives to quickly take up and pass the postal reform bill passed by the Senate this week and preserve the important protections for Maryland that have been included in the Senate's bill.

The changes in this bill that Senator Cardin and I fought for would require the postal service to maintain overnight delivery standards for nearby communities that have zip codes with the same first three digits. As a result of the passage of this bill by the Senate, the Easton AMP is essential to meeting these requirements and could not be closed by the Postal Service as long as the overnight delivery standards are in effect.

Additionally, I have received a letter from Postmaster General Patrick R. Donahoe outlining the Maryland postal facilities that would remain open as a result of these delivery service standards, which includes Easton. This follows up on a verbal commitment by the Postmaster General in a meeting on April 23, 2012 that the Easton Mail Processing Center will remain open.

This bipartisan action by the Senate to reform the postal service is a great victory for Maryland communities that rely on the post office and good news for Maryland jobs. It's an important step forward for rural communities, small businesses, and vulnerable populations who rely on the postal service. This reform will help stabilize the post office and protect hundreds of Maryland postal workers from having the rug pulled out from under them.

To ensure that the savings and reforms included in this legislation can go into effect, and the delivery standard protections for Easton be given the force of law, I urge you to work with the leadership in your chamber to quickly pass the Senate's bill and send it to President Obama for his signature.

I look forward to continuing to work together to serve the day-to-day needs of our constituents in Maryland and the long range needs of America.

Sincerely,



Barbara Mikulski  
United States Senator